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SOURCE Hwanghae Imminpo.

HWANGHAE PROVINCE IMPROVES
LIBRARY FACILITIES

As a part of the public education program sponsored by Hwanghae Province, great strides have been made in the improvement of the library facilities throughout the province. Before the liberation there was only one public library in the province, but now there are 20. The great task of replacing the Japanese publications with democratically inspired books and magazines was completed without seriously inconveniencing the reading public. The literary enthusiasm of the public is over great, and the libraries are doing their utmost to supply the public with up-to-date reading materials free of charge. The volumes of books in the libraries also increased considerably because of the good cooperation of publishers and the efficiency of the Central Library.

The library is the most popular place for workers, farmers, clerks, technicians, and students, and the most popular readings are intellectual materials such as literature, science, and technology. The total number of library visitors in the province for the one-year period preceding March 1949 was 148,368. This number included: 5,322 workers, 5,440 farmers, 26,939 clerks, 101,001 students, and 7,666 journalists.

The most popular books are natural science, technical science, social science, and Soviet literature, in that order. More Soviet publications are read than any other kind.

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